# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:404
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Shortage of Water and Fodder for Cattles
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ???? ??? ???? ?????? ??????
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that 11 States are facing drought and a large number of farmers are facing acute shortage of foodgrains, water for livelihood, irrigation and cattles, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that thousands of cows and other cattles died due to shortage of water and fodder in various States of the country including Rajasthan and Karnataka;

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government is considering to provide any special package to overcome the shortage, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the assistance provided by the Government to the farmers who lost their livestock, State-wise?

## Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) to (e): Yes Madam. Due to deficit monsoon during the year 2015-16, 11 States, i.e. Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra(both for Kharif and Rabi), Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh(both for Kharif and Rabi), Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand (drought Rabi) submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance from NDRF after declaring drought in several parts of these States. The details regarding funds approved from the NDRF to the drought affected States are annexed as annexure-I. Water levels of 91 major reservoirs are monitored by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
As per Central Water Commission, the storage position of 91 reservoirs on 6.7.2016 is given below:
i) Live storage available as on 06.07.2016 in these 91 reservoirs is 28.208 BCM, which is 18% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. This storage is 55% of the storage of corresponding period of last year and 74% of storage of average of last ten years.
ii) Live storage available in 91 reservoirs during the last year was 51.307 BCM.
iii) Average live storage of last ten years in these 91 reservoirs was 38.304 BCM.

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing, National Livestock Mission (NLM) with a budgetary allocation of Rs.292 crore during the year 2016-17 with a sub-Mission on Feed and Fodder Development where financial assistance is provided to all States/UTs, including drought affected States.

Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to mitigate the adverse impacts of drought in drought affected States from 2014-15 which is continuing during the current year 2016-17 with a budgetary allocation of Rs.100 crore. The State-wise budgetary allocation is annexed as annexure-II.
Allocation of subsidized foodgrains to the State/UT Governments is made under National Food Security Act (NFSA)/Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In addition, foodgrains are also allocated to States/UTs for natural calamity including drought, festivals, etc. on the basis of requests received from States/Uts Department of Food and Public Distribution. On receiving request from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Chattisgarh for additional allocation of foodgrains for distribution to the beneficiaries in the drought affected areas and as per the demand made by them, a quantity of 23.80 lakh tons of foodgrains was allocated during 2015-16. Foodgrain allocation for drought relief during 2015-16 and 2016-17 State-wise is annexed as annexure-III.
In order to make foodgrains available to the people at cheaper rates, Government of India has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) under which foodgrains are allocated to the States/UTs for distribution to eligible beneficiaries @ 5kg per person per month for priority households and @ 35kg per family per month for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at highly subsidized prices of Re1/-, Rs.2/- and Rs.3/- per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. The act provides for coverage of about 67% of the population of the country (75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population). With the implementation of NFSA, Government of India is making substantial foodgrain allocation to the States/UTs at highly subsidized prices. During the current year, Government of India has so far allocated a quantity of 487.42 lakh tons of foodgrains under NFSA and 50.56 lakh tons of foodgrains under erstwhile TPDS to the States/UTs which have not implemented NFSA. In addition, during the current year a quantity of 1.87 lakh tons has been allocated

for Above Poverty Line (APL) & Below Poverty Line (BPL) families (in Non NFSA States) and a quantity of 1.72 lakh tons of foodgrains has also allocated for festivals and other additional requirements of the States. Government has also allocated a quantity of 37.42 lakh tons of foodgrains under Other Welfare Schemes of the Government of India such as Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), Sabla, Annapurna Scheme, etc.

The State Government is empowered to undertake necessary relief measures with the help of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them in the wake of notified natural calamities like drought, hailstorm, pest attack cold wave/frost etc. For a calamity of severe nature, additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered as per extant norms from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), upon receipt of memorandum from the State Government.